(Translation)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Environment and Hygiene Committee of Sham Shui Po District Council (6th Term)

Date:	21 May 2020 (Thursday)	
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Time: 9:30 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Sham Shui Po District Council

Present

<u>Chairman</u> Mr CHUM Tak-shing

Members

Ms CHAU Yuen-man, Eunice	
Ms CHOW Wing-heng, Zoé	(Arrived at 9:50 a.m.)
Mr HO Kai-ming, Kalvin	(Left at 12:50 p.m.)
Mr HO Kwan-chau, Leo	(Left at 1:16 p.m.)
Mr KONG Kwai-sang	(Arrived at 10:05 a.m.; left at 12:45 p.m.)
Mr LAO Ka-hang, Andy	(Arrived at 9:34 a.m.)
Ms LAU Pui-yuk, MH	(Left at 1:20 p.m.)
Mr LAU Wai-chung, Lawrence	
Mr LEE Hon-ting, Howard	(Arrived at 9:45 a.m.; left at 12:48 p.m.)
Mr LEE Man-ho, Leos	(Arrived at 9:34 a.m.)
Mr LI Chun-hei, Joshua	
Mr LI Kwing, Richard	
Mr LI Ting-fung, Jay	(Arrived at 9:35 a.m.)
Mr MAK Wai-ming	(Arrived at 10:40 a.m.)
Ms NG Mei, Carman	
Ms NG Yuet-lan, Janet	(Left at 11:47 a.m.)
Mr SIN Kam-ho, Jeffrey	
Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, MH, JP	(Arrived at 10:08 a.m.)
Mr TSUI Yat-hin, Ronald	(Arrived at 9:56 a.m.)
Mr WAI Woon-nam	
Mr YEUNG Yuk	(Arrived at 9:35 a.m.; left at 12:35 p.m.)
Mr YUEN Hoi-man, Ramon	(Arrived at 9:35 a.m.)
Co-opted Members	
Ms CHAN Hiu-ching	(Left at 12:22 p.m.)
Ms CHAN Ka-yi	(Left at 1:37 p.m.)

Action by

Mr CHUI Chun-choi

(Arrived at 9:38 a.m.)

In Attendance		
Mr LAM Wui-tsun, Brian	Assistant District Officer (Sham Shui Po) 2	
Mr SUM Siu-hin	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sham	
	Shui Po), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	
Mr YAN Tsz-ching	Acting Chief Health Inspector 2, Sham Shui Po District,	
	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	
Mr LIM Ying-lam	Chief Health Inspector 3, Sham Shui Po District, Food	
	and Environmental Hygiene Department	
Mr YIU Yau-man, Wallace	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional	
	West) 5, Environmental Protection Department	
Dr CHAN Shing-yan, Jackie	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste	
	Reduction & Recycling) 2, Environmental Protection	
	Department	
Mr CHAN Chi-suen, Rex	Police Community Relations Officer (Sham Shui Po	
	District), Hong Kong Police Force	
Mr IP Yiu-cheung, Sunny	Neighbourhood Police Coordinator/Police Community	
	Relations Office (Sham Shui Po District), Hong Kong	
	Police Force	
Mr CHUNG Man-hon, Kevin	Assistant Police Community Relations Officer/Police	
	Community Relations Office (Sham Shui Po District),	
	Hong Kong Police Force	
Mr MOK Wai-hai, Sam	Chief Estate Officer/Kowloon West, Lands Department	
Mr CHUNG Yan-chi, Jocky	Principal Estate Officer/Kowloon West (North), Lands	
	Department	
Mr WONG Chi-tak, Keith	Senior Transport Officer/Sham Shui Po, Transport	
	Department	
Mr TO Chi-hung	Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 2), Water Supplies	
	Department	
<u>Secretary</u>		

Mr CHU Hei-yeung, Angus

Executive Officer (District Council) 1, Sham Shui Po District Office

Absent

Co-opted Member Mr CHOW Lai-yin

Opening Remarks

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed members and representatives from government departments to the third meeting of the Environment and Hygiene Committee ("EHC"). To prevent the spread of the epidemic in the community, he requested all attendees to check their temperatures and register their names before entering the Conference Room. He also said that the public gallery would not be open, and the meeting should be adjourned before noon.

2. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed the representative of the Water Supplies Department ("WSD") to attend meetings from now on.

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of minutes of the 2nd meeting held on 5 March 2020

3. The Committee confirmed the above minutes without amendment.

Agenda Item 2: Matters for discussion

(a) <u>The air pollution problem in Sham Shui Po District (EHC Paper 25/20)</u>

4. <u>Ms Carman NG</u> introduced Paper 25/20.

5. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed the representative of the Transport Department ("TD") to the meeting.

6. <u>Mr Keith WONG</u> introduced Response Paper 39/20 and added the following remarks:

- (i) TD was aware of the locations of pavements with high pedestrian flow and loading/unloading bays which were heavily used in the district.
- (ii) The Department would only conduct statistical surveys on pedestrian and vehicular flows at individual road sections at specified time periods. Detailed information on the overall pedestrian and vehicular flows in the district was not available at this stage.
- 7. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> introduced Response Paper 41/20 and added the following remarks:
 - (i) The overall air quality in Sham Shui Po had shown improvements in recent years. According to the data reported by the general air quality monitoring station ("AQMS") in Sham Shui Po, the average concentration levels of respirable suspended particulates, fine suspended particulates, nitrogen

dioxide and sulphur dioxide in 2019 had dropped by 28%, 42%, 33% and 57% respectively, as compared to the levels in 2013. Only ozone still maintained at a relatively high level due to impacts of regional pollution.

- (ii) Regarding the Air Quality Health Index ("AQHI"), the percentage of hours and the percentage of days in 2019 with AQHI reported by Sham Shui Po AQMS reaching "7" or above were 2.7% and 10.4% respectively, which were lower than the records of 3.7% and 12.6% in 2014. This reflected continuous improvements in air quality.
- (iii) In respect of meeting the Air Quality Objectives ("AQOs"), the concentration levels of respirable suspended particulates, fine suspended particulates and sulphur dioxide reported by Sham Shui Po AQMS in 2019 fully met relevant AQOs. Only the annual average concentration level of nitrogen dioxide and the 8-hour concentration level of ozone failed to meet long-term and short-term AQOs.
- (iv) The Environmental Protection Department ("EPD") would continue to improve air quality in Sham Shui Po District ("SSP District").

8. <u>Ms Carman NG</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) air pollution had significant impacts on child development. Therefore, the Education Bureau ("EDB") played a very important role in this respect; (ii) she expressed regret that EDB did not send representatives to the meeting; (iii) she hoped that the departments could list the five worst air pollution black spots in Sham Shui Po; (iv) SSP District was continuously developing, she enquired whether it would be adequate to have only one general AQMS in the district; (v) she enquired whether the actual circumstances in streets in the district made it impossible for the public to choose walking as their mode of travelling; (vi) she reckoned that public transport interchanges in SSP District were stuffy and hoped that TD could address this seriously; (vii) she hoped that various departments could consider and plan in a thorough manner to resolve the air pollution problem in the long run.

9. <u>Mr WAI Woon-nam</u> raised the following views: (i) he reckoned that public transport interchanges in SSP District and the area in the vicinity of Cheung Sha Wan Road were very stuffy. The problem was particularly serious in summer; (ii) he suggested that some of the bus routes passing through Cheung Sha Wan Road should be re-routed; (iii) the problem of screen-like buildings had been serious in recent years, and various departments should plan in a prudent manner; (iv) he hoped that various departments could resolve the air pollution problem as soon as possible.

10. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) Given that there were no major sources of industrial emission in the district, there was no specific air pollution black spot in Sham Shui Po.
- (ii) The primary objectives of setting up an air quality monitoring network ("AQMN") were to collect data for assessing the overall impact of air pollution on the public, provide the public with real time and forecasted air quality data, and facilitate the formulation and evaluation of air quality management strategies.
- (iii) EPD would conduct annual reviews on AQMN based on the established mechanism and international guidelines, with a view to confirming its representativeness and exploring the need to set up more AQMSs or increase the types of air pollutants to be monitored. Factors considered in designing AQMN included the spatial distribution in the network, coverage of existing AQMSs, types of development areas (e.g. urban areas, new towns and rural areas), local population, vehicular flow, distribution of pollution sources, the need to monitor regional air pollution levels, topography, local development plans, etc.
- (iv) As shown by the latest review on AQMN, the existing network covered most of the densely populated areas in Hong Kong and was able to provide representative data on air quality of Hong Kong. Having considered the topography and future development of the North District and the Southern District, the Department started to plan for the setting up of general AQMSs in these two districts in 2015. These two AQMSs were expected to be commissioned this year. By then, the total number of general AQMSs in Hong Kong would be increased to 15. Upon commissioning of AQMSs in the North District and the Southern District, AQMN would cover approximately 90% of Hong Kong population. The Department would continue to review the need to set up AQMSs based on the established mechanism.
- 11. <u>The Chairman</u> enquired whether there was no air pollution black spot in SSP District.

12. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> responded that there was no specific air pollution black spot in SSP District.

- 13. <u>Mr Keith WONG</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) Air quality at public transport interchanges would be affected by weather, wind direction and ventilation.

- (ii) TD would continue to work with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department ("EMSD") to conduct regular inspection and testing of ventilation systems at public transport interchanges.
- (iii) The public transport interchange at Hoi Lai Estate was not within TD's purview. The Department would liaise with the Housing Department to follow up on the measures against the air pollution problem.

14. <u>The Chairman</u> enquired how TD assessed the effectiveness of the "Walk in HK" policy and whether any hindrance from other government departments had been encountered in the implementation of the policy.

- 15. <u>Mr Keith WONG</u> responded as follows:
 - (i) The consultancy study on "Walk in HK" was still underway and no major hindrance had been encountered so far.
 - (ii) TD would consider using AQOs to assess whether the initiatives put forward by the consultancy study were effective.

16. <u>Ms Janet NG</u> raised the following enquiries: (i) she enquired which month in 2019 EPD assessed air quality in the district and whether the same was assessed in 2020; (ii) she enquired when the Department's standards for pollutant concentration levels were established.

17. <u>Ms CHAN Ka-yi</u> raised the following views: (i) in recent years, there had been a large number of housing and community redevelopment projects in SSP District, which made the areas near the works sites dusty. She hoped that the departments could monitor air quality in the vicinity of works sites continuously and implement initiatives to reduce suspended particulates; (ii) the large number of tall buildings in SSP District gave rise to the urban heat island effect, which made it very hot to be on the streets.

- 18. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - EPD's AQMSs would continue monitoring air quality. The concentration levels of major air pollutants indicated in the paper were the annual average values.
 - (ii) The Department would use internationally recognised standards (including the guidelines of the United States Environmental Protection Agency) as reference for the design of AQMN and use sophisticated equipment to

measure pollutant concentration levels, with a view to meeting the objectives of setting up AQMSs.

- (iii) General AQMSs measured pollutant concentration levels in the ambient air. The Department did not have any air quality data for individual locations, such as specific works sites.
- (iv) Work needed to be done in other aspects, such as planning, in order to tackle the urban heat island effect.
- 19. <u>Mr Keith WONG</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) TD would convey to EMSD the suggestion of monitoring the concentration levels of other air pollutants.
 - (ii) He agreed that the urban heat island effect was mainly attributed to planning issues.
 - (iii) If works were conducted outside public transport interchanges, the Department would request works contractors to enhance preventive measures to prevent air pollutants from entering public transport interchanges.

20. <u>Mr Jay LI</u> raised the following views: (i) reducing the emission of pollutants was the most effective way to resolve the air pollution problem. He suggested that various departments should develop emission reduction strategies as soon as possible; (ii) the number of trips made by the public during the epidemic was reduced. Therefore, the air pollutant figures of 2020 should be less than those of last year in principle, and this might affect the assessment of the effectiveness of "Walk in HK"; (iii) the "Sustainable Building Design Guidelines" issued by the Planning Department ("PlanD") had no legal effect. He suggested that the departments should formulate more stringent laws.

21. <u>Mr Ramon YUEN</u> raised the following enquiries: (i) he enquired about EPD's definition of sources of high pollutant emission and its criteria for determining air pollution black spots; (ii) he enquired about EPD's timetable for conducting short-term air quality monitoring; (iii) he enquired about the number of days in the past three years with AQHI reaching very high or serious levels.

- 22. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) In the next few years, the Government would continue to introduce new initiatives on emission reduction to improve air quality. These initiatives

included phasing out Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles with an incentive-cum-regulatory approach; further tightening vehicle emission standards and encouraging the use of electric vehicles; further increasing the use of natural gas for electricity generation and tightening emission from power plants; and exploring the feasibility of tightening the volatile organic compound content limits of paints and consumer products.

- (ii) Sources of high pollutant emission mainly included power plants, industrial parks, etc.
- (iii) The Department conducted a short-term air quality monitoring study from 2013 to 2015 and short-term air quality monitoring in 2018. The results showed that the data reported by roadside AQMSs could reflect the real situations of air quality and that roadside air quality had been significantly improved.
- 23. <u>Mr Keith WONG</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) He agreed that emission reduction could resolve the air pollution problem at the root.
 - (ii) The study on "Walk in HK" was expected to be completed by this year. The Department would consider the impacts of the epidemic on the study.

24. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested that TD should monitor the impacts of the epidemic on the data of the study on "Walk in HK" and submit relevant data to the District Council ("DC") in due course.

25. <u>Mr Howard LEE</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) he considered that AQOs in Hong Kong were less stringent than the standards of the World Health Organization ("WHO"). Therefore, various departments should tighten all AQOs as soon as possible; (ii) in 2018, the Air Quality Objectives Review Working Group put forward 14 short-term initiatives on land transportation and only one of which was a measurable initiative. He enquired whether these initiatives were only put forward to reach relevant standards by 2025, instead of actually alleviating the air pollution problem.

26. <u>Ms CHAN Hiu-ching</u> said that in view of a large number of elderly and chronically ill individuals in the district, various departments should publish air pollution monitoring figures and make suggestions to local residents on suitable venues and periods of time to do exercise.

- 27. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) When reviewing AQOs, EPD would pursue the ultimate targets under WHO's guidelines in a progressive manner, as well as considering public views and various factors in detail. The Department planned to commence legislative procedures by this year to tighten three AQOs, including the 24-hour AQO of sulphur dioxide and the annual and 24-hour AQOs of fine suspended particulates. It was also proactively planning for the next review.
 - (ii) AQHIs reported by different AQMSs and relevant health advice were available on the Department's website.
 - (iii) In general, if an indoor environment had good ventilation and adequate fresh air supply without any obvious indoor pollution source, the difference between indoor and outdoor air quality should be insignificant. Therefore, the public could refer to the data reported by general AQMSs if they were indoor, or they could refer to the data reported by roadside AQMSs if they were outdoor or near the roadside.

28. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested that EPD should consider delivering simpler air quality information so that it would be easier for the elderly in the district to understand.

29. <u>Mr Keith WONG</u> responded that information on measurable initiatives for the improvement of air quality was not available at present.

30. <u>Mr WAI Woon-nam</u> raised the following views: (i) he hoped that TD could consider rationalising bus routes in the district to resolve road congestion and air pollution problems; (ii) he suggested that EPD should consider setting up additional AQMSs in SSP District; (iii) planning played a very important role in resolving problems of air pollution and screen-like buildings. Therefore, he suggested writing to PlanD, requesting it to respond to the planning policy for SSP District.

31. <u>Ms Carman NG</u> raised the following views: (i) she reckoned that the air pollution problem in the district had been serious in recent years and EPD should not merely designate industrial areas as air pollution black spots; (ii) she suggested that EPD should consider announcing locations with clean air so that local residents could do exercise at these locations at ease.

32. <u>Ms Janet NG</u> raised the following views: (i) she suggested that EPD should increase the number of AQMSs to reflect the situation at street levels more accurately; (ii) the ozone level in SSP District kept going up, and ozone could lead to respiratory illness affecting the

public's health; (iii) although most of the pollutant concentration levels reported by Sham Shui Po AQMS in 2019 were lower than those reported in 2013, they still did not meet WHO's standards.

- 33. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) EPD had already set up a general AQMS at the rooftop of Sham Shui Po Police Station.
 - (ii) AQHIs reflected the short-term health risk of air pollution and enabled the public to take precautionary measures to protect their health. The measurements at general AQMSs were pollutant concentration levels in the ambient air in the districts concerned, which were not microscopic data.
 - (iii) In formulating the "Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong", the Department would draw up control measures according to the established practice. The Department would extensively consult relevant industries, professional organisations, stakeholders, the Advisory Council on the Environment, the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"), etc.
 - (iv) In general, the existing AQMN covered most of the densely populated areas in Hong Kong and was able to provide representative data on air quality of Hong Kong. Having considered the geographical characteristics and future development of the North District and the Southern District, the Department would set up general AQMSs in the Southern District and the North District this year.
 - (v) Subject to wind direction and wind speed, ozone could be transported far away from where it was originally formed, causing widespread regional pollution. Also, ozone could be scavenged by some pollutants, such as nitric oxide, in the ambient air via chemical reactions. Therefore, ozone concentration levels at different locations of the district would be affected by the formation and removal mechanism of such pollutants and the meteorological factors.
 - (vi) The regional background ozone level in Hong Kong was relatively high, which led to an increase in ozone concentration levels in the urban areas and at roadside in recent years. Meanwhile, as a result of various vehicle emission reduction measures, the reduction in pollutant emissions from vehicles would contribute to the reduction in chemical reactions between nitric oxide and ozone in the air, thereby reducing the consumption of ozone.

Nevertheless, if emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds were continuously reduced in the whole region, this would help reduce the overall ozone concentration level and its exceedances within the district and Hong Kong in the long run.

34. <u>Mr Keith WONG</u> responded that TD supported the rationalisation of bus routes passing through Cheung Sha Wan Road and would continue to follow it up in the annual bus route planning programme.

35. <u>The Chairman</u> concluded as follows: (i) it was suggested that various departments should review whether AQOs and relevant standards met WHO's standards and whether they were able to reflect the actual situation, as well as further improving those standards so as to make Hong Kong a livable city; (ii) it was opined that air quality in Hong Kong was affected by the external environment, therefore the Government should formulate a long-term "Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong" and develop overall strategies as early as possible; (iii) the Committee regretted that some departments did not send representatives to the meeting. Letters would be sent to these departments, requesting them to report to DC on appropriate occasions.

36. <u>Ms Carman NG</u> suggested that the Working Group on Environmental Protection ("WGEP") should invite departments to send representative to its meetings for discussing relevant issues.

37. <u>The Chairman</u> agreed to Ms Carman NG's suggestion.

(b) <u>Request for strengthening the regulation of chain vegetable traders to stop illegal</u> occupation of pedestrian walkways and roads (EHC Paper 26/20)

(c) <u>Request for the Police and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to enforce</u> <u>the law rigorously to solve the shop front extension problems in Kweilin Street, Ki Lung</u> <u>Street and their vicinity (EHC Paper 27/20)</u>

(d) <u>Strong request for improving the problems caused by shops in the vicinity of Pei Ho</u> <u>Street Market including serious shop front extensions and noise as soon as possible to ensure</u> <u>environmental hygiene as well as pedestrian and traffic safety (EHC Paper 38/20)</u>

38. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested that Papers 26/20, 27/20 and 38/20 should be discussed together since they were similar in nature.

39. <u>Ms Janet NG</u> introduced Paper 26/20 and hoped that relevant departments could provide additional resources and step up law enforcement efforts.

40. <u>Mr YEUNG Yuk</u> introduced Paper 27/20 and hoped that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") could enforce the law more rigorously.

41. <u>Ms LAU Pui-yuk</u> introduced Paper 38/20 and raised the following views and enquiries: (i) she enquired about the penalty criteria adopted by the Police in relevant prosecution cases; (ii) she enquired whether EPD had made prosecutions for relevant noise problems, and about its law enforcement criteria; (iii) she reckoned that the Sham Shui Po District Office ("SSPDO") should co-ordinate departments' efforts in resolving the problems.

42. <u>The Chairman</u> believed that various departments were greatly concerned about the problems related to shops in the vicinity of Pei Ho Street Market. He hoped that the Government could resolve the problems as soon as possible.

- 43. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> introduced Response Paper 45/20.
- 44. <u>Mr Rex CHAN</u> introduced Response Paper 35/20 and added the following remarks:
 - (i) The Police noted that relevant problems were serious and the community expressed concern over the problems.
 - (ii) As manpower was being deployed back to Sham Shui Po Police District, the Police had stepped up joint law enforcement operations with FEHD since April. Currently, there were at least two operations per week on average.
 - (iii) The Police's participation in joint law enforcement operations mainly aimed to safeguard the safety of other law enforcement officers and ensure that the operations were carried out smoothly.
 - (iv) Regarding the problem of illegal parking, 2 790 fixed penalty tickets were issued at various locations, such as Ki Lung Street, Pei Ho Street, Kweilin Street, etc., between October 2019 and April 2020.
 - (v) Upon receipt of a noise complaint, the Police would attend the scene to observe the situation and determine whether the noise was causing nuisance. As shops in the vicinity of Pei Ho Street Market usually lowered the sound volume upon receipt of verbal warnings, the Police had not issued ticket to them.

45. <u>Mr SUM Siu-hin</u> introduced Response Paper 46/20 with the aid of PowerPoint. He said that FEHD would continue to combat activities relating to unlicensed hawking and

obstruction to scavenging operations. He also hoped that departments could step up law enforcement efforts within their respective scope of work, so as to collaboratively demonstrate the Government's determination to resolve the problems.

46. <u>Mr YEUNG Yuk</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) whether the noise caused a nuisance or not was a subjective judgment. He hoped that EPD could explain in detail relevant criteria for taking law enforcement actions; (ii) he enquired whether the fixed penalty tickets mentioned above by the Police included those issued in cases of unlawful unloading of goods; (iii) he reckoned that FEHD's intention of organising seminars was positive, but its actual effectiveness was in doubt. He hoped that the Department could explain whether relevant shops had given any response and made any concrete improvement.

47. <u>Ms Janet NG</u> raised the following views: (i) she reckoned that EPD's noise criteria were outdated and were not applicable to persistent commercial noise nuisance. She suggested that EPD should consider amending relevant laws and increasing penalties; (ii) she thanked FEHD for its efforts, but she reckoned that educational measures were not very effective. She believed that the problems could only be resolved by increasing prosecutions and penalties; (iii) she hoped that the Lands Department ("LandsD") could assist other departments in addressing the problem of occupation of pedestrian walkways and roads.

48. <u>Ms Carman NG</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) she reckoned that there was a need for FEHD to conduct joint law enforcement operations with the Police; (ii) vegetable traders in the vicinity of Pei Ho Street Market placed foam boxes and pallets everywhere such that pedestrians had to walk onto roads. The problem had been getting worse recently. She hoped that departments could address the problem as soon as possible; (iii) she enquired whether any case involving vegetable traders in the vicinity of Pei Ho Street Market had been heard in court.

49. <u>Mr KONG Kwai-sang</u> raised the following views: (i) the problem of street obstruction was also found in the vicinity of Po On Road and Shun Ning Road markets; (ii) the placing of goods on roads by shops would lead to noise nuisance, as well as traffic and hygiene problems. This would also affect the daily operation of market traders who followed the rules; (iii) he reckoned that law enforcement efforts of various departments were not very effective, and therefore relevant problems recurred frequently; (iv) he suggested exploring the feasibility of increasing penalties and implementing new measures to resolve the problems.

50. <u>Ms LAU Pui-yuk</u> raised the following views: (i) she reckoned that communicating with relevant shops and organising hygiene talks were not very effective; (ii) noises made by shops caused serious nuisance to residents upstairs, and shop employees often made

intimidating remarks to law enforcement officers. She suggested that EPD should measure noise levels at residential units and review its definition of noise; (iii) she was willing to provide a list of residential units above relevant shops for departments to conduct noise assessments; (iv) the areas being occupied by shops with their goods had been extended to roadside parking spaces. She suggested that relevant departments should follow up in this respect; (v) she suggested that SSPDO should convey the suggestion about the fair competition law as mentioned in the Paper to relevant departments and consider organising inter-departmental meetings to discuss short-, medium- and long-term measures against the problem; (vi) as the problem occurred in a few public markets in the district, she suggested that the Committee should write to the Government, requesting it to provide additional resources and consider regulating these shops through licensing.

51. <u>Mr Leos LEE</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) he reckoned that shop front extensions ("SFEs") and noise problems in the district were extremely complicated. He suggested that other law enforcement departments should assist FEHD in enforcing the law; (ii) he enquired whether the complaint figures of Ki Lung Street, Pei Ho Street and Kweilin Street as shown in the Police's report reflected the actual situation.

52. <u>Mr WAI Woon-nam</u> raised the following views: (i) SFEs and noise problems had been in existence in the district for many years, and the deterrence effect of fines was insignificant; (ii) as far as he knew, goods and containers being placed on streets by shops belonged to outsourced contractors. Therefore, these outsourced contractors could be regarded as unlicensed hawkers. He suggested that FEHD and the Police should categorised them as unlicensed hawkers and take law enforcement actions and prosecute accordingly; (iii) he suggested that FEHD and the Police should step up joint law enforcement operations against SFEs and unlicensed hawkers in the district.

53. <u>Mr MAK Wai-ming</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) he hoped that EPD would share its successful cases of prosecutions against vegetable traders in the district with other departments for their reference; (ii) he enquired when EPD would make a report to the Police upon receipt of a noise complaint; (iii) he enquired about FEHD's inspection and prosecution figures in respect of obstruction to scavenging operations; (iv) he reckoned that FEHD's four-hour time limit for offending shops to remove roadside goods was too long because those shops could often sell all the goods within the time limit.

54. <u>Mr SUM Siu-hin</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) Regarding unlicensed hawking by shops, FEHD would continue with its inspection and follow-up efforts.
- (ii) Communication and education could be complementary to law enforcement

efforts. Relevant shops also understood that there was room for improvement and were willing to co-operate with the Government.

- (iii) The Department would continue stepping up joint law enforcement operations with the Police.
- (iv) In the past year, 14 relevant cases were heard in courts. The Department would provide information, such as areas involved in illegal activities, complaint figures, etc., for judges to use as reference when deciding on penalties.
- The Department prosecuted 19 cases of obstruction to scavenging operations between May 2019 and April 2020.
- (vi) The Department had issued warning letters to shops which violated the law repeatedly. If illegally placed goods were not removed within a short period of time, the Department would prosecute the owners.
- 55. <u>Mr Rex CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) Apart from issuing fixed penalty tickets to illegally parked vehicles, the Police would also drive away vehicles which caused road obstruction, with a view to alleviating the traffic obstruction problem.
 - (ii) Regarding the division of responsibilities in law enforcement operations, the Police mainly provided support to FEHD to prevent conflicts or chaos during operations.
 - (iii) It was hoped that various departments would work together to resolve the problems in order to reduce the impact on the public.
- 56. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) EPD had increased the inspection frequency and the number of law enforcement operations against relevant noise problems.
 - (ii) The music played by the relevant shops did not violate the Noise Control Ordinance. Also, they turned the volume down immediately after being advised to do so.
 - (iii) The Department welcomed Member's assistance in making arrangements for

conducting noise assessments in the residential units above relevant shops.

- (iv) The Department had successfully prosecuted shops which made repetitive noise to draw people's attention to their goods or businesses.
- (v) If the noise came from a public place, the Department would give a verbal warning and inform the Police to take law enforcement actions as soon as possible.
- 57. <u>Assistant District Officer 2</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) SSPDO had all along paid close attention to the issues related to people's lives in the district, and attached great importance to SFEs and noise problems in the district. Various departments had also been proactively taking law enforcement operations to follow up on the problems on all fronts.
 - (ii) A mechanism was currently in place for various departments to co-ordinate their operations. SSPDO was also willing to provide assistance whenever necessary.
 - (iii) The problems had existed for a long time and might not be completely resolved within a short period of time. Therefore, it was hoped that members could continue to support efforts of various departments.

58. <u>Mr WAI Woon-nam</u> said that SSPDO had co-ordinated the efforts to resolve issues on streets before. He suggested that SSPDO should co-ordinate the efforts of other relevant departments to address SFEs and noise problems in the district as soon as possible.

59. <u>Mr Jeffrey SIN</u> said that some vegetable traders in the vicinity of Berwick Street also placed goods on pedestrian walkways and roads. This would easily cause pedestrians to trip over and obstruct the traffic. Therefore, he suggested that the Police should attend the scenes and take law enforcement actions.

60. <u>Mr MAK Wai-ming</u> raised the following enquiries: (i) regarding shops which were successfully prosecuted by EPD, he enquired whether their directors were held criminally liable; (ii) regarding shops which caused street obstruction, he enquired whether it was their persons-in-charge or their directors that were prosecuted by FEHD, and whether any shop was repeatedly prosecuted and convicted for similar offenses.

61. <u>Mr Leos LEE</u> raised the following views: (i) as shown in the Police's report, traffic and noise complaint figures of Ki Lung Street, Pei Ho Street and Kweilin Street were

obviously lower than previous figures. He considered this unreasonable; (ii) he hoped that SSPDO could co-ordinate the efforts of various departments to resolve relevant problems.

62. <u>Ms LAU Pui-yuk</u> raised the following views: (i) she reckoned that relevant problems involved not only FEHD, the Police and EPD, but also other government departments. SSPDO should play a co-ordinating role by arranging for departments to conduct meetings for the discussion of relevant problems; (ii) she suggested that the issue should be included as a follow-up item at the next meeting.

63. <u>Mr TAM Kwok-kiu</u> raised the following views: (i) as the problems involved various departments, he suggested that SSPDO should refer the issue to the District Management Committee ("DMC") for follow up and discussion of relevant work plans in detail; (ii) he hoped that various departments could strike a balance between the business environment and the quality of life of residents.

64. <u>Mr YEUNG Yuk</u> played a short video about the road situation of Ki Lung Street and raised the following views and enquiries: (i) apart from tackling the problem of illegal parking, the Police should also follow up on the problem of goods being illegally placed on roads; (ii) Ki Lung Street was obstructed by pallet jacks and goods. He hoped that the Police would follow up as soon as possible; (iii) he enquired whether the Police would directly confiscate the goods placed on roads and issue tickets to their owners.

65. <u>The Chairman</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) he hoped that FEHD could step up efforts to enforce the laws against unlicensed hawking to seize goods causing street obstruction; (ii) he reckoned that LandsD also had the powers and responsibilities to resolve the problem of street obstruction. He suggested that the Department should consider applying for court orders to prohibit the occupation of public areas, with a view to stopping shops from placing goods on streets; (iii) he suggested that SSPDO should consider including the issue as a major item under the District-led Actions Scheme.

66. <u>Mr SUM Siu-hin</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) FEHD would continue to follow up on the problem of street obstruction by vegetable traders near Berwick Street.
- (ii) If there were goods causing street obstruction, the Department would prosecute the owners or persons-in-charge concerned.
- (iii) If a shop was convicted by the court for obstruction to scavenging operations, the Prosecution Section of the Department would provide a report with details on the obstructed area, number of related complaints received, level of

concern of DC, etc. for the judge to use as reference when deciding on penalties.

- (iv) The Department would continue to step up efforts to enforce the laws against illegal hawking.
- (v) The Department would continue to step up efforts in inspection, prosecution and education. It also hoped that relevant departments would step up efforts in their respective scope of work.
- 67. <u>Mr Rex CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) The Police noted that shops' goods accumulated on streets and caused road obstruction in the district. It would follow up on the problem as soon as practicable.
 - (ii) If situations on roads were found to pose danger to road users, the Police would act immediately. If there were goods causing street obstruction, the Police would act as soon as possible upon receipt of a public complaint. In the past cases, advice and warnings were given by the Police to offenders.
 - (iii) If there were available resources, the Police would step up law enforcement efforts against relevant problems.
- 68. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) Directors of vegetable shops violating the Noise Control Ordinance might be held criminally liable.
 - (ii) For instance, in a similar noise nuisance case in February 2019, the company concerned and its director were fined \$7,000 and \$5,000 respectively.
- 69. <u>Assistant District Officer 2</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) SSPDO co-ordinated the efforts of various departments in dealing with district issues a few years ago. At present, there was a clear division of work among departments, and the mechanism for conducting joint operations was effective. Various departments had already undertaken to continue following up on SFEs and noise problems in the district. As in the past, SSPDO would maintain close liaison with various departments to understand the actual situation and provide the required assistance.

(ii) SSPDO was willing to convey members' policy recommendations to relevant bureaux.

70. <u>The Chairman</u> concluded as follows: (i) it was suggested that the issue should be included as a follow-up item at the next meeting; (ii) the Committee expressed great concern over the problems with the operation of shops in the district, and reckoned that a zero-tolerance attitude should be adopted towards all illegal activities; (iii) it was hoped that various departments would enforce the law more rigorously, and consider increasing penalties and confiscating goods which were illegally placed, with a view to reducing the nuisance caused by relevant shops.

71. <u>Ms LAU Pui-yuk</u> raised the following views: (i) she suggested that the Committee should write to relevant government departments in respect of the issue, requesting them to take follow-up actions; (ii) she hoped that SSPDO would convene an inter-departmental co-ordination meeting shortly to discuss the issue.

72. <u>Assistant District Officer 2</u> responded that DMC would continue to follow up on the problems.

73. <u>The Chairman</u> said that he would consider exploring with SSPDO the possibility of setting up an independent working group to discuss the issue. He also suggested writing to relevant government departments to express DC's concern over the issue.

74. <u>Ms Eunice CHAU</u> moved a motion on Paper 26/20, which read as follows:

"Request for full co-operation among FEHD, LandsD and other relevant government departments to curb the problem of illegal occupation of roads by chain vegetable traders."

75. <u>Mr Andy LAO</u> seconded the motion.

76. The Committee voted on the motion.

77. <u>The Chairman</u> announced that the motion was carried unanimously.

(e) <u>Another request for the Environmental Protection Department to provide the expanded</u> <u>polystyrene foam recycling industry with premises for operation</u> <u>Sham Shui Po</u> <u>becomes a "place surrounded by expanded polystyrene foam" because of the inaction of the</u> <u>Environmental Protection Department (EHC Paper 28/20)</u>

78. <u>Mr Ronald TSUI</u> introduced Paper 28/20.

- 79. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> responded as follows:
 - (i) During an on-site inspection on the day before the meeting, it was found that expanded polystyrene ("EPS") foam boxes no longer accumulated on the section of Lai Chi Kok Road near Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Vegetable Market. It reflected that with the efforts of various departments, the street management problem caused by the logistics activities related to EPS foam boxes was improved.
 - (ii) A small quantity of EPS foam boxes still accumulated on the roadside of Fat Tseung Street adjacent to the wholesale market.
- 80. <u>Dr Jackie CHAN</u> introduced Response Paper 48/20 and added the following remarks:
 - (i) EPS foam boxes stored temporarily by logistics companies outside the wholesale market were mainly reused in the logistics and transportation processes related to vegetable wholesaling, in which reprocessing, recycling, etc. were not involved. Therefore, only street management problems, such as illegal occupation of land, obstruction of pedestrian walkways, etc., were involved in relevant logistics activities.
 - (ii) In order to meet export standards and market needs, recyclers would carry out diversified processes for different types of recyclable materials. The process of recovering, recycling and reprocessing included dismantling, machine sorting, crushing, cleansing, removing impurities, granulating, etc. During a certified foam recovering process, recyclers would crush discarded EPS foam with a machine and melt them into plastic blocks before exporting them for processing into plastic beads, which would be used to make daily necessities, such as hangers, etc.
 - (iii) To assist the recycling industry, the Government would allocate short-term tenancy ("STT") sites to provide land resources at affordable rents to support the development of the industry. Relevant sites would be leased out by way of open tender. Recyclers could make use of these sites to recover and recycle specified recyclable materials. Existing STT sites (including site KX2671 at Stonecutters Island) were currently allowed to be used for recovery and recycling of EPS foam. EPD welcomed eligible recyclers (including EPS foam recyclers) to bid for the leases of the sites.
 - (iv) STT site KX2671 at Stonecutters Island would be leased out by way of open tender in accordance with the two-tier tender assessment criteria. EPD

would first carry out assessments based on technical factors (including relevant experience of recyclers) to shortlist eligible tenders. Afterwards, LandsD would award the site to the highest bidder among eligible bidders. At present, the abovementioned site KX2671 was leased for waste paper recycling purposes.

81. <u>Mr Ronald TSUI</u> requested EPD to consider adjusting the criteria for using STT sites in the light of the current situation and relaxing the definitions of recovery and recycling, which would enable EPS foam recyclers in the district to be eligible for using STT sites, thereby reducing the storage of EPS foam boxes in busy urban areas.

82. <u>Mr WAI Woon-nam</u> raised the following enquiries: (i) as site KX2671 could not be used to store EPS foam boxes currently, he enquired how EPD would resolve the problem of accumulation of EPS foam boxes in the district; (ii) he enquired whether the Department would provide sites which were remote from residential areas to recyclers for storing and recovering EPS foam boxes.

83. <u>Ms LAU Pui-yuk</u> raised the following views: (i) the problem of accumulation of EPS foam boxes in the vicinity of public markets in the district was serious. At present, there was no effective system to deal with EPS foam boxes. Therefore, she suggested that EPD should make use of the Environment and Conservation Fund ("ECF") to introduce EPS foam boxes recovery programme, so as to assist recyclers or non-profit organisations in handling EPS foam boxes.

84. <u>Ms Carman NG</u> said that the problem of accumulation of EPS foam boxes in the district was getting worse. Therefore, she requested SSPDO and EPD to assist local recyclers in identifying sites for the storage and recovery of EPS foam boxes.

- 85. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - After targeted operations by relevant departments, it was found in recent inspections that the problem of street obstruction caused by accumulation of EPS foam boxes in the vicinity of the wholesale market at Lai Chi Kok Road was significantly improved.
 - (ii) EPD had proactively approached relevant logistics companies to explain the tendering terms and conditions and procedures for leasing STT sites.
- 86. <u>Dr Jackie CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) The abovementioned site KX2671 itself could also be used for recovery and

recycling of EPS foam. However, EPD did not receive any relevant tender during the tendering processes of STT sites of this type in the past.

- (ii) EPS foam boxes outside the wholesale market were mainly wholesalers' operating tools. The logistics companies concerned did not mean to dispose of these foam boxes, and processes such as recycling, reprocessing, etc., were not involved.
- (iii) The Department did not make it mandatory for EPS foam recyclers to lease STT sites dedicated for recycling purposes. If recyclers wished to lease sites for recycling or reprocessing purposes, the Department welcomed them to submit applications.
- (iv) At present, the Department adopted a series of measures to support the recycling industry, including ECF for subsidising community waste reduction projects, the Recycling Fund for supporting the recycling industry to enhance recycling efficiency, the EcoPark and STT sites dedicated for the recycling industry, the Community Green Stations, other related schemes, etc.

87. <u>Mr Ronald TSUI</u> raised the following views: (i) he reckoned that EPD had the responsibility to put forward effective measures against accumulation of EPS foam boxes in the district; (ii) he suggested that the Department should make legislative amendments and adjust the criteria for using STT sites so that recyclers in the district would be eligible for using them.

- 88. <u>Mr Wallace YIU</u> responded as follows:
 - (i) The problem of accumulation of EPS foam boxes in the district had to be resolved primarily through street management measures. EPD would co-operate with FEHD and the Police on enforcement efforts.
 - (ii) The definitions of recovery and recycling did not cover the logistics and transportation processes of EPS foam boxes which were temporarily stored for reuse.
 - (iii) The problem could only be resolved effectively by strengthening street management measures and relevant enforcement operations.

89. <u>Mr Ronald TSUI</u> hoped that EPD would try to come up with a solution and provide STT sites to logistics companies in the district as soon as possible.

90. <u>The Chairman</u> concluded as follows: (i) it was hoped that the Police and FEHD would continue to take law enforcement actions against street obstruction caused by reused EPS foam boxes; (ii) it was hoped that EPD would proactively consider assisting recyclers in recovering and recycling discarded EPS foam boxes, including providing sites, capital, etc.; (iii) it was suggested that WGEP should consider inviting non-profit organisations to apply for its funding to lease sites for recycling discarded EPS foam boxes in the district.

(f) <u>Concern over environmental hygiene problems of old buildings</u> <u>Request for</u> introducing solar compactors (EHC Paper 29/20)

- 91. <u>Mr Jay LI</u> introduced Paper 29/20.
- 92. <u>Mr SUM Siu-hin</u> introduced Response Paper 47/20 and added the following remarks:
 - Regarding the application of new technology, FEHD first introduced a mini street washing vehicle for washing away stubborn dirt in SSP District in March 2018. In view of the positive results, mini street washing vehicles were currently used in all 18 districts.
 - (ii) It was hoped that members would help promote the new solar compactor and remind the public to put refuse in it.

93. <u>Mr LIM Ying-lam</u> introduced details of the solar compactor pilot scheme in Response Paper 47/20.

94. <u>Mr Jay LI</u> raised the following enquiries: (i) apart from solar energy, he enquired whether the solar compactor could be recharged by other means; (ii) he enquired whether FEHD had to hire additional staff to operate the solar compactor; (iii) he enquired whether EPD would co-operate with the pilot scheme and assess if the waste collected was reduced as a result of the scheme prior to implementation of the municipal solid waste ("MSW") charging.

95. <u>Mr WAI Woon-nam</u> raised the following enquiries: (i) he enquired whether FEHD would extend the operating hours of the solar compactor if it was well-received; (ii) he enquired whether the Department would immediately replace the solar compactor container with a new one if it was almost full during its operation.

96. <u>The Chairman</u> raised the following enquiries: (i) he enquired whether the staff responsible for operating the solar compactor could resolve its technical problems to ensure safe operation; (ii) since the solar compactor would be placed on streets, he enquired whether other departments had to provide special cooperation; (iii) he enquired whether the

pilot scheme was in conflict with EPD's MSW charging policy.

- 97. <u>Mr SUM Siu-hin</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) Vehicles used for the transportation of the solar compactor could recharge the latter whenever necessary.
 - (ii) Apart from being responsible for the simple operation of the solar compactor, stationed staff would also need to assist in cleansing surrounding areas to maintain good hygiene. FEHD would remind them to take adequate safety measures.
 - (iii) To tie in with the operation of refuse transfer stations, the solar compactor container would be removed at around 10:30 pm every evening.
 - (iv) It was hoped that other departments would co-operate with the Department's pilot scheme. Upon completion of the scheme, the Department would carefully examine the effectiveness of the scheme and views of various stakeholders.
- 98. <u>Mr Wallace YIU gave a consolidated response as follows:</u>
 - (i) EPD would obtain the operational details of the pilot scheme from FEHD.
 - (ii) If necessary, the Department would assist FEHD in examining how the scheme on the solar compactor could complement the MSW charging policy.

99. <u>The Chairman</u> concluded as follows: (i) the introduction of the solar compactor pilot scheme by FEHD was welcomed. It was hoped that the scheme would be successfully implemented; (ii) it was believed that the solar compactor would be well-received by the public, and would make it easier for residents of "three-nil" buildings to dispose refuse; (iii) it was hoped that other departments would co-operate with the scheme in terms of policy and administration; (iv) it was hoped that FEHD would report the progress and the data of the scheme to DC in due course.

(g) <u>Reports by the District Lands Office / Kowloon West, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Environmental Protection Department, the Drainage Services Department, the Highways Department, the Customs and Excise Department and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on environmental hygiene problem, wild bird problem and poultry market relocation problem in the district (EHC Papers 30-37/20)</u>

100. <u>Mr Joshua LI</u> said that his designated spots for banners were often occupied by banners of other individuals without authorisation. He enquired which departments he could contact for immediate action.

- 101. <u>Mr Jocky CHUNG</u> responded as follows:
 - (i) If a Member's designated spots for banners were occupied without authorisation, he/she could directly contact LandsD's contractor, namely Shui On Properties Management Limited ("Shui On").
 - (ii) Upon receipt of a complaint, Shui On would attend the scene for inspection as soon as possible. If designated spots were found to be occupied by unauthorised banners, Shui On would conduct joint operations with FEHD to clear those banners.

102. <u>Mr Joshua LI</u> enquired which departments he could contact for immediate follow-up action if he found that other individuals' designated spots were occupied by unauthorised banners.

103. <u>Mr Jocky CHUNG</u> responded as follows:

(i) The phone number of the person-in-charge of Shui On could be provided after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: The Department provided the said contact number to Mr Joshua LI after the meeting.]

(ii) Upon receipt of a complaint, Shui On would act in accordance with the established procedures mentioned above. If unauthorised banners were displayed at non-designated spots, they would be outside LandsD's purview and he believed that relevant departments would follow up in this respect.

104. <u>Mr Joshua LI</u> enquired whether he could request FEHD to immediately remove unauthorised banners if they were found to be displayed at non-designated spots.

105. <u>Mr Jocky CHUNG</u> responded that if Members found that unauthorised banners were being displayed, they could contact Shui On immediately. If it was confirmed that unauthorised banners were displayed at non-designated spots, Shui On would contact FEHD for follow-up action.

106. The Chairman said that he was aware that some individuals displayed unauthorised

banners at other individuals' designated spots during long holidays, taking advantage of the loophole that departments could not address relevant matters during holidays. Therefore, he hoped that relevant departments could take action as soon as possible upon receipt of complaints.

107. <u>Mr Leos LEE</u> said that he was also aware of these acts. He highlighted that such banners were not removed for as long as one to two weeks occasionally.

108. <u>Mr Jocky CHUNG</u> responded that LandsD was only responsible for managing banners displayed at designated spots, whereas banners displayed at other locations should be under FEHD's purview.

109. <u>Mr LIM Ying-lam</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) If an unauthorised banner was a commercial banner, FEHD would remove it as soon as possible.
- (ii) If an unauthorised banner was a non-commercial banner and the Department could not immediately ascertain whether the location concerned was a designated spot, it had to seek confirmation from LandsD or Shui On first.

110. <u>The Chairman</u> enquired how much time it would take FEHD to seek confirmation from LandsD or Shui On.

111. <u>Mr LIM Ying-lam</u> responded that it would take one to two days.

112. <u>Mr Ramon YUEN</u> suggested requesting LandsD or Shui On to provide a list showing DC and LegCo Members' designated spots in the district for the reference of the Committee and FEHD.

113. <u>Mr Joshua LI</u> said that some banners were obviously displayed at non-designated spots or other unreasonable locations without authorization, and he considered it unnecessary to spend time to seek confirmation prior to their removal.

114. <u>Mr Leos LEE</u> raised the following views: (i) he agreed that LandsD or Shui On should be requested to provide the abovementioned list; (ii) he was aware that defamatory banners were displayed at illegal locations during long holidays and law enforcement departments found it difficult to identify their owners. He reckoned that relevant departments should remove these banners as soon as possible.

115. <u>Mr Jocky CHUNG</u> responded as follows:

(i) The abovementioned list could be provided after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: Given that LegCo election of Hong Kong would be held in September 2020, the current list of LegCo Members' designated spots would be updated shortly. LandsD welcomed Members to request for relevant list again in due course.]

(ii) LandsD would enhance communication and co-operation with FEHD to deal with unauthorised banners as soon as possible.

116. <u>Mr Jeffrey SIN</u> raised the following views: (i) he found that some individuals, while displaying their banners, damaged his banners nearby and that banners of DC Members were often damaged by some individuals with cutters; (ii) there were many unauthorised banners in the district that did not show the names of persons or organisations to which they belonged. He hoped that relevant departments would follow up in this respect.

117. <u>The Chairman</u> said that his own banners were also damaged frequently. Therefore, he enquired whether the Police had adopted any protection measure in this respect.

118. <u>Mr Rex CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) Vandalism of banners was a criminal case. If such acts were found, Members should report them to the Police, which would carry out investigations and follow up in accordance with the established procedures.
- (ii) Regardless of the political stances of banners, the Police would act impartially and make every effort to track down offenders.

119. <u>Mr Jay LI</u> said that the numbers of unemployed persons and street sleepers increased during the epidemic. He enquired whether major gathering locations of street sleepers were only confined to the four locations listed in FEHD's report. He also enquired whether the Department would increase the number of locations where inter-departmental joint operations on environmental hygiene would be conducted.

120. <u>Mr SUM Siu-hin</u> responded that it would be more appropriate for SSPDO to respond to the issue of street sleepers.

121. <u>Assistant District Officer 2</u> responded that SSPDO would continue to co-ordinate efforts of relevant departments on the issue of street sleepers in the district. Members were welcomed to provide other gathering locations of street sleepers in the district for follow up.

122. <u>Mr Richard LI</u> raised the following views and enquiries: (i) there was the problem of gathering of crows in a park near Lai Kok Estate; (ii) he enquired whether the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD") had taken any further action and followed up upon collection of crow nests.

123. <u>The Chairman suggested writing to AFCD on the enquiry concerned.</u>

124. <u>The Chairman</u> concluded that the Committee noted the above eight reports.

Agenda Item 3: Any other business

125. Members did not raise any other business.

Agenda Item 4: Date of next meeting

- 126. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 16 July 2020 (Thursday).
- 127. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:40 p.m.

District Council Secretariat Sham Shui Po District Office July 2020